

3.2.1 OPEN PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The Louisville Metro planning process is designed to maximize stakeholder involvement and participation, which is essential in creating a viable mitigation strategy. Public involvement has been an integral part of the development of Louisville Metro's Mitigation Plan in order to develop a mitigation plan that is supported by a broader cross section of public and private stakeholders.

Moreover, the planning process relied on stakeholder involvement and participation as the main source of guidance for all phases of the plan. The majority of public involvement has taken the form of the two stakeholder groups: a Planning Team and an Advisory Committee. Other public involvement included public meetings, one-on-one interviews by Project Staff, a presentation to Metro Council's Public Health and Safety Committee, phone interviews and contact with various officials from Metro offices, and State and Federal agencies.

Following is a description of the Louisville Metro "Plan Development Team".

Plan Development Team Members: As a whole the Team represents the following:

- Project Staff
- LOJIC GIS Staff
- Planning Team
- Advisory Committee

Project Staff: Project Staff has been involved in all phases of plan development. Project Staff includes:

- Program Coordinator: Jim McKinney
- Mitigation Specialist: Pamela Moore
- Technical Advisors: Bob Smith, Chris Dickinson, Randy Stambaugh, and Justin Gray
- GIS Specialists: Curt Bynum, Paul Freibert, and Josh Human

The Project Staff was responsible for collecting data, reviewing plans/studies, facilitating public input, and drafting the Plan. In addition, Project Staff facilitated the process to review the hazard assessments and profiles, assisted in developing a mitigation strategy, including the design of a detailed action plan, and stakeholder participation.

LOJIC GIS Staff: LOJIC was primarily responsible for gathering critical spatial data and developing the risk assessment.

To prepare for the Risk Assessment, the project coordinator requested FEMA Region IV staff to provide HAZUS- Multi-Hazards (MH) training to LOJIC GIS staff. FEMA Region IV selected Louisville Metro as a HAZUS-MH Pilot Community. HAZUS-MH is a GIS-based, nationally standardized, loss estimation tool developed by FEMA.

While LOJIC staff was familiar with HAZUS-MH software, training provided all the skills and tools necessary to use the software for an earthquake risk assessment, and perform tasks required for the risk assessment. A basic HAZUS-MH training course for local GIS staff and other neighboring communities was provided on June 9 – 10, 2004 at the University of Louisville campus.

LOJIC
Louisville/Jefferson County Information Consortium

LOJIC is the proprietor of a countywide geographic information system (GIS) built using ESRI's (Environmental Systems Research Initiative) ArcInfo and ArcView software. Created in 1987, LOJIC was formed from an MSD study of benefits of the GIS. MSD is the lead agency, and other agencies help finance and use the GIS system. LOJIC's technical support staff is housed at MSD as part of MSD's commitment to the consortium. LOJIC represents a multi-agency effort to build and manage a comprehensive GIS. Presently participants include MSD, Louisville Metro, the Property Valuation Administrator, the Louisville Water Company, as well as over a dozen licensees that include the University of Louisville, Louisville Gas & Electric, Greater Louisville, Inc., and fire districts. LOJIC also has cooperative agreements and provides services to the following agencies: Community Services Office (MetroCall and Operation Brightside), Planning and Development Services, Board of Elections, Emergency Management Agency, Public Works, Office of Health and the Environment, Housing and Urban Development, Revenue Commission, Police, Fire, and EMS.

For in-depth info on LOJIC, go to: WWW.LOJIC.ORG.

Convening Planning Team and Advisory Committee Representatives

To convene a group of stakeholders from various hazard-related agencies/organizations, Louisville Metro Mayor Jerry Abramson requested participation on a Planning Team and an Advisory Committee. Letters from the Mayor requested participation and involvement in all phases of plan development. As a result, both the Planning Team and an Advisory Committee are composed of staff from those community departments that are implementing the majority of the Plan's recommendations and represent the public at-large.

- In April 2004, letters from the Mayor were sent to 21 stakeholders (hazard-related agencies/organizations) requesting participation on the Planning Team
- In April 2004, letters from the Mayor were sent to 24 stakeholders (businesses, agencies, and citizens) requesting participation on an Advisory Committee.

See Appendix 5 for a complete list of agencies/organizations and citizens invited by the Mayor to participate in the planning process.

Planning Team: composed of 20 hazard-related agencies/organizations from local, state, and federal agencies, as well as community representatives, local business leaders, and educators interested in hazard mitigation. In total, the Planning Team met twelve times.

PLANNING TEAM REPRESENTATIVES

American Red Cross
Division of KY Emergency Management Area 6
Jefferson County Public Schools
KIPDA, Area Development District
Louisville & Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District
Louisville Fire & Rescue
Louisville Gas & Electric Energy Services
Louisville Metro Emergency Management Agency
Louisville Metro Health Department
Louisville Metro Planning Commission
Louisville Metro Police Dept
Louisville Metro Public Works
Louisville Water Company
National Weather Service
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Suburban Fire Districts
University of Louisville, Center for Hazards Research
US Army Corps of Engineers
US Geological Survey

Advisory Committee: The existing Louisville/Jefferson County Floodplain Management Plan members, as well as others, were requested to serve as public and private stakeholders. The Advisory Committee represents agencies, government, businesses, academia, neighborhoods, citizens, and others interested in hazard mitigation. In total, the Advisory Committee met ten times.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

American Red Cross
Two Citizens for Louisville Metro
Three Development / Environmental Businesses representatives
Greater Louisville Board of REALTORS
Greater Louisville Inc
Jefferson County EMS
Jefferson County Property Valuation Administrator
Louisville & Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District

Louisville Metro Council
Louisville Metro Development Authority
Louisville Metro Emergency Management Agency
Louisville Metro Parks
Metro Louisville Dept of Inspections, Permit, License
MetroCall
US Census Bureau
US Army Corps of Engineers

In April and May 2004, Project Staff convened the two committees for a kick-off meeting. Members received numerous handouts including: a summary of the planning process, HAZUS-MH info, FEMA CD of Mitigation Success Stories, a booklet on "Planning for a Sustainable Future", and the series of DMA 2000 "How-To-Guides".

During the two kick-off meetings, the Planning Team and Advisory Committee were assigned key roles; established a meeting schedule; and set agendas and a timeline. In addition, during the planning process, the Committees:

- Developed a mission statement and a Partnering Agreement,
- Provided input on development of the public involvement process,
- Analyzed and reviewed hazard data for the risk assessment,
- Created a mitigation strategy,
- Established local mitigation goals and objectives,
- Determined the procedure for the implementation of mitigation measures,
- Established plan maintenance procedures,
- Provided comment on the final plan content.

See Appendix 6 for a complete list of the local Plan Development Team. Also, included in the Appendix is the Attendance List for both Committees.

Following are the planning requirements presented to stakeholders.

<u>Planning Requirements</u>	
The Planning Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Meeting: Open Public Involvement - Review and Incorporation of Materials
Risk Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying Hazards - Profiling Hazard Events - Assessing Vulnerability: Identifying Assets and Estimating Potential Losses - Analyzing Development Trends
Mitigation Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop Local Hazard Mitigation Goals - Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Measures - Implementation of Mitigation Measures
Plan Maintenance Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring, Evaluating & Updating the Plan - Implementation Through Existing Programs - Continued Public Involvement
KYEM & FEMA Plan Review	
Public Meetings	
Adoption by Local Governing Body	

The Planning Team and Advisory Committee provided guidance throughout the process and ensured stakeholder input. Moreover, all Committee meetings were open to the public and provided an opportunity for comments. Following is the schedule and a summary for the meeting purpose for the Planning Team and Advisory Committee Meetings. (See Appendix 7 for Committee Agendas.)

YEAR	DATE	PURPOSE OF MEETING	LOCATION
2004			
	April 14	Informal Kick-Off with Planning Team	MSD Board Room
	May 10	Informal Kick-Off with Advisory Committee	MSD Board Room
	May 24	HAZUS-MH Kick-Off (Public Meeting)	U of L Shelby Campus
	June 9 & 10	HAZUS-MH training	U of L Belknap Campus
	June 16	Data Collection	City Hall
	September 22	Identify Hazards	MSD Board Room
	December 1	Update on Risk Assessments	MSD Board Room
2005			

January 25	Risk Assessment	U of L Shelby Campus
February 8	Risk Assessment/ Presentations by Agencies	USGS
February 15	Presentations from all hazard representatives	USGS
March 2	Develop Mitigation Strategy	USGS
March 30	Develop Mitigation Strategy Action Plan	U of L Shelby Campus
April 12	Finalize Mitigation Strategy and Develop Plan Maintenance Procedures	MSD Board Room
May 26	Public Meeting	Air Pollution Control